

you any persuasive Powers in your House at present, to which the former Lower Houses were Strangers? We have hitherto seen nothing of the Kind: Or are there any late Circumstances without Doors, which may render *this Time* more unfavourable to our supporting his Majesty's Rights against Usurpation, and the People from Oppression, than existed during the last Meeting of the Lower House? Perhaps the War with *Spain* may by you be considered as an additional Advantage towards pushing your favourite Points, and induce you to wonder that *at this Time* we do not give up every Thing to obtain a little Money for his Majesty's Service: But, in whatever Light you may view this Circumstance, we cannot think ourselves Justifiable either to his Majesty, our Consciencies, or your Constituents, in giving up his Prerogatives, and by subverting our present Constitution, introduce the numberless Evils consequent upon all the Powers of Government being lodged in your Hands, for so comparatively trivial a Consideration. But what Kind of Loyalty, or even Patriotism, must that be, which, amidst the Distresses of a heavy War, with several powerful Enemies can not only withhold it's Assistance to the Common Cause, but sit calm and unconcerned at impending Ruin, and the Contempt of our Fellow-Subjects, by an obstinate Adherence to the same unwarrantable Plan now a Ninth Time found unsuccessful, notwithstanding his Majesty's threatened Displeasure for such Behaviour, unless such Assistance shall be purchased at the extravagant Price of his Majesty's Prerogatives, and the People's Liberties, thrown into your Hands by this favourite and unconstitutional Bill? Such is the Nature of your Loyalty or Patriotism, and such has been and is the real Concern of the Lower House to raise Supplies for his Majesty's Service, in these Times of imminent Distress and Danger, to our Mother Country, our Fellow-Subjects, and Ourselves.

Why, *Gentlemen*, should you think it strange that we should adhere to our Objections made to a like Bill in 1758, and give the little Regard you have shewn to those Objections as a Reason for our being confirmed in an Opinion, that there was no Probability of the Two Houses coming to an Agreement upon the present Bill, and sending it down (as you express yourselves) with a flat Negative? If those Objections were insignificant, or not applicable to the present Bill, surely you might have shewn them in one or other of these Lights; and if material and applicable to the present Bill, Why should we not adhere to them? Was the Length of Time since the Lower House was acquainted with them, lessen their Force? Or will not rather that Length of Time, and the repeated Disregard to them, render the obstinate Adherence of the Lower House to the same faulty Plan, the more inexcusable? But you tell us, we might have observed that in the forming this Bill, the Foundations for *many* of those Objections were removed: Tho' we have bestowed our best Attention upon this Bill, we could not observe from it that the Foundations for *many* of those Objections were removed: We observe, indeed, that *some few*, and those only of the least Importance, are obviated; but by much the greater Part, both in Number and Importance, still remain, and particularly those Parts of the Bill calculated to introduce an unconstitutional Influence, remain untouched: Why were not these Parts of the Bill altered conformable to the Objections, that, by your affording one Proof of a real Concern for his Majesty's Service, we might have had an Opportunity of coming to an Agreement with you on that Occasion? In a Word, *Gentlemen*, we shall adhere to our Objections, nor may you ever expect our Assent to any Bill, whatever may be the Occasion, to which they are applicable; for "we are satisfied that nothing is so likely to preserve the Tranquility of the Province, as the maintaining with a strict and steady Hand, the necessary Powers and just Prerogatives of the Crown, and the preferring an uniform and settled Principle of Government, to an occasional Departure from it for temporary Convenience: every Day's Experience convinces us, that it is in vain to negotiate away his Majesty's Prerogative, every new Concession becoming the Foundation of some new Demand, and That, of some new Dispute."

Your "maxim in Politics, almost universally adopted, that the Representative is justified by the Instructions of his Constituent, in acting even against his own Judgment," we neither understand, nor see any present Use of: Would you insinuate that the Conduct of the Lower Houses, relative to his Majesty's Service, has been agreeable to the Instructions of your Constituents, and by thus excusing yourselves, leave them accountable for your extraordinary Conduct? We know that the Inhabitants of this Province in general, are an honest well-meaning People, as Loyal Subjects as any in his Majesty's Dominions, and endued with a Spirit conducive to his Majesty's Service, to the utmost of their Abilities; but we are sorry to say at the same Time, they are not exempt from Imposition, and whether the Conduct of former Lower Houses, and the other Branches of the Legislature, may not have been misrepresented to them by such as may have thought the People's seeming Concurrence a necessary Countenance to their own ambitious Schemes, we shall not at present determine; but to us it seems extremely natural, that the People upon the breaking up of a long Session, without any Thing done for his Majesty's Service, tho' with a very heavy Charge to themselves, should enquire into the Occasion of these frequent Disappointments; and it is as probable, they may be told of the just and equal Methods proposed by the Lower House to raise Supplies, the Title of the Bill, which is called an *Equal Assessment*, may be cited as an Authority to this Purpose, and if necessary to proceed further, the Substance thereof may be represented in such Manner as may best suit the then present Purpose, concluding, that in short the Bill is in itself highly just and reasonable, but that the Upper House will not pass it, for no other Reason than because it contains a Tax upon the Proprietary Estate, and the great Offices of the Government; and as probably they may not see the Propriety of leaving these Objects untaxed, they no Doubt will conclude their Delegates are right in persisting that these shall come in as well as the Rest; nor can it be a Matter of Surprise that the People imposed upon by such Arts as these, should, in some Instances, be induced to give such Instructions to their Delegates as you allude to; however, that this is far from being generally the Case, is evident, from the constant and almost equal Opposition, the Proposal of this Plan has of late met with in the Lower House: But whatever Measures some Members of that House may have thought fit to take, to impose upon the Credulity of their Constituents, we could not have conceived you would have given us so flagrant a Proof of such Practices, as to assert this Matter to Ourselves; and yet you are pleased to entertain Hopes that we might be more at large than heretofore with Respect to the Tax upon the Proprietary Estate, and the great Offices of the Government, which you take to have been our real Objections to the Supply Bill in 1758, to cover which, most of the others were only thrown in as a Barrier; these are your Words: Why did not you, *Gentlemen*, inform us what Founda-